

Ph.D. Examination List

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Examination Committee

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Primary Field: Contemporary Southern Literature

Rationale

My primary field concerns selected literature published roughly within the last forty years, falling within the scholarly field of New Southern Studies. Framed by a set of latenesses including capitalism and history, as well as a series of posts (-colonial, -soul, and -southern, for example), my field traces the boundary crossings, complexities, and juxtapositions that work to discern the hauntings and possibilities in Southern literature in order to inform the study of Southern culture as well as multicultural literature in the United States, the Americas, and the Atlantic worlds. Focusing on this specific temporal and spatial domain allows me to appreciate the intertwining residual, dominant, and emerging cultures present in the materialities and representations that constitute the recent hemispheric American Souths.

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Secondary Field: Contemporary Book History and Print Culture

Rationale

My secondary field surveys the key debates, theoretical positions, and case studies in and around Book History and Print Culture. Drawing on the field's interdisciplinary approach to culture, objects, and social relationships, my emphasis in this secondary field leans towards the study of print culture in the late-capitalist period in the United States, with a focus on how textual conditions mediate reading practices within and across various interpretive communities. This secondary field informs and expands upon the scholarship in my primary field, allowing me to consider Contemporary Southern Literature from multiple methodological, epistemological, and intellectual perspectives.

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